

**A PRELIMINARY SURVEY ON ICTHYOFAUNA (RIVER KRISHNA)
OF TINTHANI VILLAGE, SHORAPUR TALUK,
YADGIR DISTRICT, KARNATAKA**

**RESHMA S. PUTGI, SOMANATH REDDY C. PATIL, MANJUNATH. K,
SRIDEVI. H & GIRISH RATHOD**

*Department of Post Graduate Studies and Research in Zoology, Government Degree
College, Kalaburagi, Karnataka, India*

ABSTRACT

A preliminary survey of Ichthyofauna of Tinthani village (Krishna River), Shorapur taluk, Yadgir district, Karnataka was undertaken from January 2018 to March-2019. During the study occurrence of twelve fish (12) species belonging to 3 orders were identified. Order Cypriniformes was dominant with 7 species, Labeo rohita, Catla Catla, Puntius sophore, Puntius sarana, Tor Mussullah, Cirrhinus mrigal, Ctenopharyngodon idella followed by Siluriformes order with 4 species Mystus seenghala, Ompok bimaculatus, Wallago attu., Channa striatus and Osteoglossiformes with one species Notopterus notopterus

KEYWORDS: Fish, Fauna & Tinthani Village

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INTRODUCTION

Fishes are one of the important groups of vertebrates which influence the life of human in various ways. Fishes are an important ecological link in the food chain (Arya Mohit *et al.*, 2012) (Khodake Sanjay P *et al.*, 2014). Fishes are the important elements in the economy of many nations as they have been a staple item in the diet of many people. They constitute slightly more than half of total number of approximately 54,711 recognized vertebrate species of fish (Nelson 2006). Of these, 8411 are fresh water species and 11650 are marine India is one of the mega biodiversity country in the world and occupies the ninth position in terms of fresh water mega biodiversity [Mittermeier, R. A and C. G Mittermeier (1997)] (Manisha Das, Jatin Sarmah, 2014).

Fish are often a key element in environmental planning (Schiemer, F, 2000) and they appear to be good indicators of the status of aquatic environments (Schneiders, A. *et al.*, 1993). In addition to being an important, palatable food item for human consumption, they are part of aquatic food chain, nutrient cycling and ecosystem services. Fish also generate employment, function as a genetic library for possible future use in medicine and aquaculture, stimulate human interest in nature, and provide aesthetic and recreational values. Certain ecosystem services generated by fish populations are also used as management tools, for example, in enhancing rice production (Tilapia, Carp), mitigating diseases in tropical (Mosquito fish), mitigating growth of lake vegetation (Grass carp) (Holmlun, C. M and Hammer, M., 1999)(J Chandra Shekar Rao *et al.*, 2013)

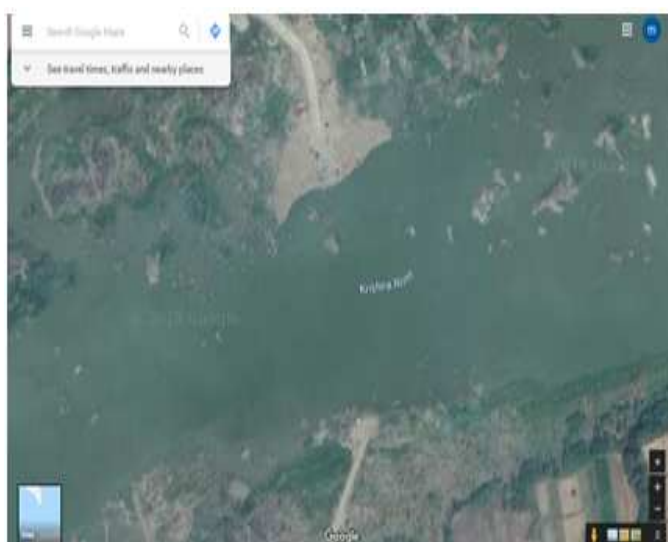
The present survey was undertaken to study ichthyofauna and conservation of fish fauna of fresh water (river Krishna) Tinthani village, Shorapur taluk.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Tinthani Mouneshwara temple is a Hindu shrine located on the banks of the Krishna River, 20 km south of Shorapur. River Krishna is barely 100 meters from Mouneshwara temple (<https://karnatakablog.com>, 2014).

The 1300 Kilometers long Krishna River or Krishnaveni is one of the longest rivers in Peninsular India. It is the fourth largest river in India; it flows nearer the holy temple (Figure 1: a-b) (<https://www.google.com>, 2019).

Fishes collected from different selected localities with the help of local fisherman using variety types of nets (Figure 2: c-g) from January 2018 to March 2019. On field, the photography has been done before preservation, since formaldehyde decolorizes the fish color on long preservation. The fishes collected and fixed were labeled giving serial numbers exact locality from where collected, date of the collection spots where ever possible. Identification was done based on keys for fishes of the Indian subcontinent (Day 1958; Jayaram; 1981; Jayaram 1999; Talwar and Jhingram 1991). Classification was carried on the outlines of (Day 1889), (Jayaram 1961), (Jayaram 1981).



(a)



(b)

Figure 1: Study Area



Figure 2: Field Photography

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Table 1: Fish Species Recorded in the Study Area

SI No	Order	Cypriniformes
1	Family:	Cyprinidae
	Species:	<i>Catla catla</i>
		<i>Labeo rohita</i>
		<i>Ctenopharyngodon idella</i> , <i>Cirrhinus mrigala</i>
		<i>Puntius sophore</i>
		<i>Puntius sarana sarana</i>
		<i>Tor mussullah</i> ,
2	ORDER	SILUROFORMS
	Family:	Bagridae

	Species:	<i>Mystus seenghala</i>
	Family:	Schilbeidea
	Species:	<i>Ompak bimaculatus</i>
		<i>Wallago attu</i>
	Family:	Channidea
	Species:	<i>Channa striatus</i>
3	Order	Osrtioglossiformes
	Family:	Notopteridea
	Species:	<i>Notopterus notopterus</i>

The results of the present investigation confirmed the occurrence of (12) twelve fish species in the study area. The distribution of fish species is quite variable because of geographical and geological conditions.

The fish species found in Tinthani village (Krishna River) are in Order Cypriniformes with 7 species, *Labeo rohita*, *Catla Catla*, *Puntius sophore*, *Puntus sarana*, *Tor Mussullah*, *Cirrhinus mrigal*, *Ctenopharyngodon idella* followed by Siluriformes order with 4 species *Mystus seenghala*, *Ompak bimaculatus*, *Wallago attu*, *Channa striatus* and Osteoglossiformes with one species *Notopterus notopterus* (Table: 1).

The results of the present investigation confirmed the occurrences 12 species belong to 3 order Cypriniformes order was dominated with 7 species, followed by siluriformes with 4 spices, followed by order osteoglossiformes with 1 species.

Some economically important Indian major carp of *Labeo rohita*, *Catla catla* and *Cirrhinus mrigala* were found in much abundance. From several decades, fishing has become a major economical industry, due to several uses of fisheries resources. Anthropogenic activities are disturbing the eco-physiology of aquatic ecosystem.

Dominance of the Cypriniformes in the present study is in accordance with the other studies (Vijyalaxmi, C., *et al.*, 2008). Among the families recorded, cyprinidae was more dominant. Many researchers reported the strong dominance of family cyprinidae in their investigations [Wakid, A and Biswas, S. P (2005)]

Since the fish fauna in this region also supports the livelihood of several economic classes there is an urgent need to understand the conservation priorities and to design and implement conservation action plans.

CONCLUSIONS

Being one of the important rivers, it supports a variety of fish fauna. Fish fauna is under threat as a result of several anthropogenic activities. Over fishing, use of pesticides in agriculture land and washing the containers etc, cause mortalities and health hazards to fish fauna.

Therefore, it is a need to impose of laws and bring awareness among the people towards the conservation of fish biodiversity.

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